

Bloomfield Citizen.

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All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1892.

Home News from Afar.

A friend of THE CITIZEN sends us from El Paso, Texas, the following: "I enclose a clipping from the El Paso Times of this date which might make good reading in THE CITIZEN."

"THE PICKLED WALNUTS."

HOW AN ICONOCLAST SATIRIZED SOME SUBURBAN FADS.
(Special Correspondence.)

MONTCLAIR, N. J., Nov. 17.—Not long ago I took a jaunt out through Upper Montclair in order to loosen my joints a bit. I was quite surprised to see such beautiful villas on every hand, and soon learned that this charming suburb is the spot for the man who delights in windmills, reindeer, black swans, and peacocks.

And I noticed also that every place had a name after that English fashion. Even houses standing on fifty-foot lots were called Skyhurst, Cloudvale, the Cedars, etc. While musing on the absurdity of a ridiculous fashion I met a man. As he had on a loud checked suit and a single-barreled eyeglass, I concluded that he must belong in that region.

"Good morning," I said. "Do you belong around here?"

"Yes," he replied, "I have belonged around here for something like six years, but I am not going to belong around here longer than the time it will require to get to the station after the moment my lease expires."

"Don't you like the place? It certainly seems very beautiful."

"It is beautiful," replied my friend. "It is altogether too beautiful for me. I want a lonely old-fashioned place. You see these intensely English clothes and the eyeglass?"

"I do," I replied.

"Well," he continued, "I detest them, but I have to wear them to match the place in which I live. I also have to cut the horse's tail for the same reason, and I just long to get out of here to get into a homely suit of United States clothing once more, and give the horse's tail a chance to grow long enough to brush the flies off the small of his back."

"The thing I don't like about it," I replied, "is this ridiculous custom of naming the places. Now, what sense is there in calling a \$5,000 house on a \$200 lot 'Cotswold'?"

"Do you know I antagonized every one about here by calling my place 'now, what do you think I called it?'"

"Fine view," I suggested.

"No; guess once more."

"Hazelhurst," I ventured to reply.

"No; you are wrong again. I did not call it by any picturesque, misleading name; I called it the Pickled Walnuts. And I gave it this name to burlesque the system of naming small places at all."

"And you say your neighbors didn't like it?"

"They did not, because I painted the name on a stone at the gate. And then, to get even with them, I called the stable Blytheville Terrace, the dog-house Nanticoke Lodge, and the henery the Slippery Elms."

"And what did the people say?"

"I don't know what they did not say. I think they are talking yet. And if they are not they will be when they learn that I have called the ramshackle house in which my coachman lives Westminster Hall. If you want to live out here you've got to be English from head to foot and wear a single bevelled eyeglass and white duck uppers and play cricket. But I'll get out as soon as I can, and when I once more get into a ten-dollar suit of clothes, and grow a tail on the horse, I'll apply for papers of American citizenship."

Then he passed on, trembling with emotion.

R. K. MUNKITTRICK.

All But One.

Mabel—Where the wedding gifts all displayed?

Janet—Yes, all except the magnificent casket of coal, the gift of the groom; that was under lock and key.—Exchange.

No such precaution would have been necessary had the groom bought his coal from the Bloomfield Coal Company, who sell the best Lehigh Coal at \$6.00 a ton, with a rebate of 25c a ton for cash.—Advt.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Will Cripple the Fire Department.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN: Sir: By the report of the proceedings of the Township Committee, the Fire Committee are ordered to take down, and store, the electric striking apparatus.

As an interested citizen, let me ask what are we going to have for an adequate fire alarm in place of the bell? The whistle, placed in a remote part of the town, can hardly be heard in the Centre when one is listening for it.

This is a serious matter, and is it not better that the Township should assume a very remote responsibility of paying for a possible damage by the bell tower falling, than to run the risk of the center of the town being wiped out by fire?

The present alarm depends upon the vigilance and watchfulness of no man, and (when a box is pulled) automatically and instantly gives a good and sufficient alarm to the whole department. The whistle will alarm but one company if sounded.

Suppose a fire starts late at night in the Centre, and a box is pulled? If the night watchman is in any remote part of the premises, or is asleep, or is away, or is any thing or anywhere but on the watch, when the alarm comes to his engine room on the small taper, which I believe is the way he gets it, no alarm is sounded, and how much of the town is burned up depends (as it did ten years ago) upon how strong the wind is.

Let this occur but once and we have gone back ten years in our progress in fire matters, and our rate of insurance will be higher even than it used to be.

We have seen the department (and it is a good one) fight three fires in the Centre, and know that it is a hard struggle when the whole force is at hand promptly.

In view of these facts it would seem to me that the authorities should take a lease of the bell tower, and have it strengthened so that it would not possibly fall down, at least until such time as the voters appropriated money for an alarm equally as good.

One more word and I am done. The execution of the lease by the Township Committee will not change the existing situation one iota; the town is already responsible. AN INTERESTED CITIZEN.

No Title for Whittier.

I notice that you refer to the poet Whittier as "Mr. Whittier." This, I take it, is in bad taste. Call him Whittier, John G. John Greenleaf or Friend Whittier, but never "Mr. Whittier." He belongs to that pure democracy of Quakerism that permits no prefixes or titles to proper names—no "Mr.," no "Rev.," no "Hon.," no "Esq.," but plain John, James, Charles, Dora, Rebecca, etc. It does not accord with the generally accepted feeling toward him. The good Quaker poet is nearer to the hearts of our American readers than any other living poet, and those readers are sensitively exacting in the particular of the treatment accorded him by others.—Cor. Chicago News-Record.

An Accomplished Parrot.

On Sacramento street, near Kearny, on any sunny afternoon one can see hanging in front of a Chinese store a large cage containing a green parrot, which bird is a most distinguished linguist. He possesses the faculty, so rare among foreigners, of speaking Chinese. He also speaks Spanish and English. To a singsong question addressed to him in Chinese by his owner the parrot gravely replied, "Pretty Polly, goodly," while in answer to the stereotyped query, "Polly, what a cracker?" he burst into a flood of Chinese. He evidently seemed to reply to the time honored query, there being no cracker in sight.—San Francisco Examiner.

An Exception.

Professor—To contract is to make smaller; to expand is to enlarge. Cold contracts, heat expands. The operations cannot go on at the same time in the same thing. If—

Pupil—Beg pardon, professor, there are some things the more you contract the more they enlarge.

"Ah, indeed. Name some of them."

"Debts, sir."—Exchange.

(New York Evangelist.)

A Word to the Housekeeper.

Take it all in all, no article of animal food contributes more largely to the support of life than the ham. From the handy and rapid sandwich to the daintiest of forcemeats, it is in constant demand. Our Cockney cousins across the water assure us that of all delicacies none is more highly relished than "a bit of weal cut with a 'ammy knife," and the flavor of a good ham, we will admit, is most appetizing. But there are hams and hams, and perhaps the least satisfactory of all the housewife's purchases is a rank, unsavory, ill-cured ham. Now those who know—and they are the large army of those who never buy any other—say that the famous "Farris" hams are as near perfection as anything can be in this imperfect world. A baked "Farris" ham for dinner will surely cause a genial smile to float all around the board.—Advt.

Consumption Cured.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all various Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellow-men. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. No. 25, 250 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.—Advt.

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